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ABSTRACT

Methods are presented for educators in the use of assistive technology to increase the participation of elementary students with severe disabilities in math, science, language arts and spelling, social studies, and reading activities. Over 80 curriculum-based activities using technologies that can be adapted to fit multiple environments and users are included. The manual first describes "tools of the trade" that are quick to assemble, readily available, easy to use, and most appropriate for individuals with severe and profound disabilities, such as: switches, battery device adapters, battery control units, electrical control units, and communication aids. For each tool, a list is given of what is needed to design the tool and how to create it. A cross-reference activities guide is provided for each of the subject areas that matches skills with the tools needed. A list of commercial sources for assistive technology is also provided. The rest of the manual is divided into five different subject areas with relevant lesson plans included in each. The lesson plans identify the subject, grade level, skill, and the tools needed. Additional hints and suggestions for implementing the lesson plans are located in the margins throughout the text. (CR)

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